

TORREYA

Vol. 41

May-June, 1941

No. 3

Rhode Island Ferns

KENNETH E. WRIGHT AND DOROTHY L. CRANDALL

The most recent contribution to the literature on the ferns of Rhode Island that the authors were able to find was that of George Noble (3) published in 1920. This is a revision of the first fifty-eight pages of James L. Bennett (2) book, which appeared in 1888. The only other publication found containing any sizeable list of ferns was that of William Bailey (1) published in 1895. Since many changes have occurred in the nomenclature of these ferns, and several species and forms have subsequently been found in Rhode Island, it was felt that a recent list would be a worthwhile contribution to our knowledge of Rhode Island flora. Nomenclature conforms with that of C. A. Weatherby's (4) article in the *American Fern Journal*. Most of the ferns listed below were collected and filed in Rhode Island State College Herbarium by the authors. For additional specimens the authors are indebted to Dr. Walter H. Snell for access to the herbaria of Brown University and of Professor J. Franklin Collins, and to Mr. Albert Lownes for the use of his private herbarium.

FERNS OF RHODE ISLAND

Polypodiaceae

<i>Polypodium virginianum</i> L.	Common Polypody
<i>Adiantum pedatum</i> L.	Maiden-hair Fern
<i>Pteridium latiusculum</i> (Desv.) Hieron	Brake or Bracken
<i>Pellea atropurpurea</i> (L.) Link	Purple-stemmed Cliff-brake
<i>Woodwardia virginica</i> (L.) Sm.	Virginia Chain-fern
<i>Woodwardia arcolata</i> (L.) Moore	Net-veined Chain-fern
<i>Asplenium Trichomanes</i> L.	Maiden-hair Spleenwort
<i>Asplenium platyneuron</i> (L.) Oakes	Ebony Spleenwort
<i>Athyrium asplenioides</i> (Michx.) Desv.	Lady-fern

TORREYA for May-June (Vol. 41: 73-104) was issued June 19, 1941.

<i>Athyrium angustum</i> (Willd.) Presl.	Lady-fern
<i>Athyrium angustum</i> var. <i>elatum</i> (Link) Butters	
<i>Athyrium angustum</i> var. <i>rubellum</i> (Gilbert) Butters	
<i>Athyrium angustum</i> f. <i>elegans</i> (Gilbert) Butters	
<i>Athyrium thelypteroides</i> (Michx.) Desv.	Silvery Spleenwort
<i>Camptosorus rhizophyllus</i> (L.) Link	Walking-fern
<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i> (Michx.) Schott	Christmas Fern
<i>Dryopteris Thelypteris</i> (L.) A. Gray	Marsh Shield-fern
<i>Dryopteris simulata</i> (Davenp.) Underw.	Massachusetts Shield-fern
<i>Dryopteris noveboracensis</i> (L.) A. Gray	New York Fern
<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i> (L.) A. Gray	Marginal Shield-fern
<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i> f. <i>elegans</i> (Robinson) F. W. Gray	
<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i> f. <i>tripinnatifida</i> Clute	
<i>Dryopteris Boottii</i> (Tuckerm.) Underw.	Boot's Shield-fern
<i>Dryopteris cristata</i> (L.) A. Gray	Crested Shield-fern
<i>Dryopteris cristata</i> var. <i>Clintoniana</i> (D. C. Eaton) Underw.	Clinton's Shield-fern
<i>Dryopteris spinulosa</i> (Muell.) Kuntze	Spinulose Shield-fern
<i>Dryopteris spinulosa</i> var. <i>intermedia</i> (Muhl.) Underw.	
<i>Dryopteris hexaganoptera</i> (Michx.) C. Chr.	Broad Beech-fern
<i>Dryopteris Phegopteris</i> (L.) C. Chr.	Long Beech-fern
<i>Dryopteris Limnaeana</i> C. Chr.	Oak-fern
<i>Cystopteris bulbifera</i> (L.) Bernh.	Bulblet Cystopteris
<i>Cystopteris fragilis</i> (L.) Bernh.	Brittle Fern
<i>Woodsia ilvensis</i> (L.) R. Br.	Rusty Woodsia
<i>Woodsia obtusa</i> (Spreng.) Torr.	Blunt-lobed Woodsia
<i>Dennstaedtia punctilobula</i> (Michx.) Moore	Hay-scented Fern
<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i> L.	Sensitive Fern
<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i> var. <i>obtusilobata</i> (Schkuhr.) Torr.	
<i>Pteritis nodulosa</i> (Michx.) Nieuwl.	Ostrich Fern

Schizaeaceae

<i>Lygodium palmatum</i> (Bernh.) Sw.	Climbing Fern
---------------------------------------	---------------

Osmundaceae

<i>Osmunda regalis</i> var. <i>spectabilis</i> (Willd.) A. Gray	Royal Fern
<i>Osmunda Clatoniana</i> L.	Interrupted Fern
<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i> L.	Cinnamon Fern
<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i> var. <i>incisa</i> (J. W. Huntington) Gilbert	

Ophioglossaceae

<i>Ophioglossum vulgatum</i> L.	Adder's-tongue
<i>Botrychium simplex</i> Hitchcock	Little Grape-fern
<i>Botrychium simplex</i> f. <i>subcompositum</i> (Lasch) Milde	
<i>Botrychium simplex</i> f. <i>compositum</i> (Lasch) Milde	
<i>Botrychium lanceolatum</i> var. <i>angustisegmentum</i> (Gmel.) Angstr.	Lance-leaved Grape-fern
<i>Botrychium matricariaefolium</i> A. Braun	Matricary Grape-fern
<i>Botrychium dissectum</i> Sprengel	Cut-leaved Grape-fern
<i>Botrychium dissectum</i> f. <i>obliquum</i> (Muhl.) and Haberer) Weatherby	Fern
<i>Botrychium dissectum</i> f. <i>oneidense</i> (Gilbert) Clute	
<i>Botrychium multifidum</i> var. <i>intermedium</i> (D. C. Eaton) Farwell	Multifid Grape-fern
<i>Botrychium virginianum</i> (L.) Sw.	Virginia Grape-fern

Literature Cited

1. Bailey, William W. 1895. Among Rhode Island Wild Flowers. Preston and Rounds. Providence, R. I.
2. Bennett, James L. 1888. Plants of Rhode Island. Providence Press Company. Providence, R. I.
3. Noble, George. 1920. Ferns, Fern Allies and Flowering Plants of Rhode Island, Snow and Farnham Company, Providence, R. I.
4. Weatherby, C. A. 1935. A List of Varieties and Forms of the Ferns of Eastern North America. Amer. Fern Journ. 25: 45-51, 95-100.
———. 1936. *Ibid.* Amer. Fern Journ. 26: 11-16, 60-69, 94-99, 131-136.
———. 1937. *Ibid.* Amer. Fern Journ. 27: 20-24, 51-56.

BOTANY DEPARTMENT,
RHODE ISLAND STATE COLLEGE,
KINGSTON, R. I.

POISON IVY. Perhaps more questions are asked about poison ivy and its allies than any other plant that causes skin eruptions. "Rhus Dermatitis" by James B. McNair (The University of Chicago Press) is an extensive treatise covering nearly 300 pages. The chapters dealing with the history, distribution, morphology and anatomy, resin canals, origin and occurrence of the poison contains a wealth of botanical information. The chemistry and pathology of the plant as it relates to medicine is well written.